

## **Air and Radiation Division Weekly Report**

**1/14/22**

**Items for the Administrator's action:** None currently

**Significant Items that the Regional Administrator signed:** None currently

**Hot Topics:** None currently

### **Past Week:**

#### **RSFLAG and Hurricanes Irma and Maria**

EPA Region 2 staff participated in the RSFLG Energy Subgroup staff level meeting. HUD noted at the end of January there will be a signing ceremony for a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the Government of Puerto Rico to formalize the agencies' commitment to aligning HUD and FEMA funding with long-term resilience and renewable energy objectives.

DOE said that PREPA has revised some of its terms and conditions on their renewable energy procurement since our last meeting in December and is listening to some of the best global practices.

It was also noted that Gretchen Sierra-Zorita, Associate Director for Puerto Rico and the Territories, The White House would like to participate in the SES level RSFLG Energy sub-group meetings. Additionally, the Department of Interior is going to set up a meeting at the beginning of February (2<sup>nd</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup>), of the sub-group agencies, to meet with the Governor of the US Virgin Islands when he is in DC. There might be virtual capabilities in these meetings. (POC: Juan Gutierrez, Hector Velez and Rabi Kieber)

#### **EPA No Longer Requires Emissions Offsets for Construction Emissions for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Wind Energy Projects**

On October 20, 2021, EPA Region 1 reopened the public comment period on the revised draft permit for South Fork, an OCS Wind Energy Project (WEP) offshore Massachusetts, for the purpose of removing the requirement that the facility obtains emissions credits to offset the thousands of tons of non-attainment air pollutants that result during construction of the OCS WEP. This new policy of no longer requiring offsets for the construction emissions of OCS WEPs was established by HQ. The public comment period for South Fork ended December 6,

2021, and R1 received supportive comments about not requiring offsets for construction emissions

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

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On 1/12/2022, ARD was assigned a controlled correspondence that was sent to Administrator Regan for a response on behalf of EPA. Ms. Gouri Edlich, a Chairwoman of the Citizens for the Preservation of Wainscott (CPW) voices her concerns about the South Fork wind project transmission cable that transmits energy from the South Fork WEP to the substation through a residential community in East Hampton, NY, and EPA's proposal to not require emission credits to offset the construction phase emissions of WEP. ARD forwarded the correspondence to R1 for a coordinated response. A meeting with OAQPS, OGC, R1 and R2 occurred 1/13/2022 to discuss a coordinated response. (Contact: Viorica Petriman x 4021)

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

### Status of OCS Air Permits for the OCS Wind Energy Projects Offshore NJ and NY:

**Ocean Wind WEP**, will be located about 15 miles east of Atlantic City, NJ. It will include 98 wind turbines (WT), and 3 offshore substations (OS), and is expected to generate about 1,000 MW. Ocean Wind submitted to EPA R2 its Notice of Intent (NOI) to submit an OCS air application on 9/14/2021. An initial OCS air application is expected by 3/29/2022, and the final permit is anticipated to be issued by 6/29/2023.

**Atlantic Shores WEP**, will be located about 12 miles east of Atlantic City, NJ, and include 230 WT, 10 OS, and is expected to generate about 2,800 MW. Atlantic Shores submitted EPA R2 its NOI to submit an OCS air application on 12/22/2021. An initial OCS air application is expected by 6/1/2022, and the final permit is anticipated to be issued by 12/29/2023.

**Empire Wind WEP**, will be located about 14 miles southeast of Long Island, NY and 19.5 miles east of Long Branch, NJ. It will include 174 WT and 2 OS and is expected to generate about 2,100 MW. Empire Wind is expected to submit to EPA R2 its NOI on 3/10/2022. An initial OCS air application is expected by 6/10/2022, and the final permit is anticipated to be issued by 9/8/2023. (Contact: Viorica Petriman x 4021)

### 2015 Ozone Transport Rule

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

- **Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

**Confidential Items:** None currently

**Upcoming Major Milestones:**

Site	Milestone (SIPs)	Project Manager	Projected Date
	Proposed Action – NY regulations for distributed generation (Part 222), and incinerators (Part 219).		January 2022
	<b>Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)</b>		January 2022
	Proposed Action - NY Regulations for “Fuel Consumption & Use – Sulfur Limitations” (Subpart 225-1), “Fuel Consumption & Use – Waste Fuels” (Subpart 225-2), and General Provisions (Part 200)		February 2022

**Potential Items for HQ Cabinet Report:** None currently

**Regional Administrator’s Pending Action Items:**

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Date Sent to RA’s Office</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Comments</u>
<b>Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)</b>			